

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/774,626	FUKASAWA, MOTOMU	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Travis M. Reis	2859	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 3/3/5.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 3, 11-13, 19-23, 26, 28 and 29.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 01 February 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

***Reasons for Allowance***

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With reference to claims 1 & 3, the prior art of record does not disclose or clearly suggest an apparatus with an optical member and said deterioration indicator means has a property which is a measure of the deterioration of said deterioration indicator means due to temperature and/or humidity, in combination with the remaining limitations in the claims.

With reference to claims 11, 12, 21, 26, 28, & 29, the prior art of record does not disclose or clearly suggest an apparatus with an optical filter having a light transmitting property which varies according to any environmental history with respect to temperature and humidity, in combination with the remaining limitations in the claims.

With reference to claim 13, the prior art of record does not disclose or clearly suggest an apparatus including a lens unit which is recoverable and reusable after use, said apparatus further comprising deterioration indicator means for indicating the degree of deterioration of said lens unit and the deterioration-resisting power of said deterioration indicator means that deteriorates over time due to the environment is used being less than or equal to the deterioration-resisting power of said lens unit, in combination with the remaining limitations in the claims.

With reference to claims 19 & 20, the prior art of record does not disclose or clearly suggest an apparatus including a lens unit which is recoverable and reusable after use, said apparatus further comprising a deterioration indicator member and the deterioration-resisting power of said deterioration indicator member that deteriorates over time due to the environment is used being less than or equal to the deterioration-resisting power of said lens unit, in combination with the remaining limitations in the claims.

With reference to claim 22, the prior art of record does not disclose or clearly suggest

Art Unit: 2859

an optical apparatus including a unit which is recoverable and reusable after use, said apparatus further comprising, a deterioration indicator member and the deterioration-resisting power of said deterioration indicator member that deteriorates over time due to the environment is used being less than or equal to the deterioration-resisting power of said unit, in combination with the remaining limitations in the claims.

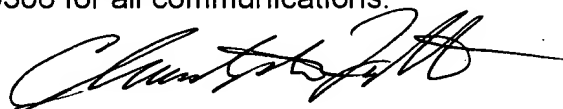
With reference to claim 23, the prior art of record does not disclose or clearly suggest an optical apparatus including a lens unit which is recoverable and reusable after use, said apparatus further comprising, a deterioration indicator member and the deterioration-resisting power of said deterioration indicator member that deteriorates over time due to the environment is used being less than or equal to the deterioration-resisting power of said lens unit, in combination with the remaining limitations in the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

2. Inquiries concerning this, or earlier, communications from the examiner should be directed to Travis M. Reis (571) 272-2249; 8--5 M--F. If unreachable, contact the examiner's supervisor, Diego Gutierrez (571) 272-2245. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306 for all communications.

Travis M Reis  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2859



Diego Gutierrez  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800

tmr  
March 10, 2005

**CHRISTOPHER W. FULTON**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**